

Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9) Salmon Habitat Planning

Key Points in the Process for Involvement of Puget Sound Technical Recovery Team (TRT), Shared Strategy and Others

OBJECTIVES:

- Obtain TRT/Shared Strategy validation for the WRIA 9 process while offering an alternative approach
- Effectively engage the TRT and others in the WRIA 9 process
- Meet NOAA Fisheries requirements for regional recovery and thereby provide jurisdictions the highest possible level of assurances

COMPELLING ATTRIBUTES:

- Commitment to Viable Salmonid Populations analysis
- "Salmon Ecology and Current vs. Historic Habitat Approach" aka "Ecological Approach" (Anchor 2003) - a practical approach to evaluation of habitat conditions and fish population response (functional linkages)
- Development of conservation hypotheses to guide protection, rehabilitation and enhancement
- Integration of Nearshore analysis and planning
- Ongoing juvenile chinook salmon research and monitoring
- Includes development of monitoring and adaptive management plans - hypothesis testing for fish use of restoration projects through quantitative evaluation
- Addresses hatchery and wild fish interactions
- Possible application of ecological economics
- Offers an example of a more urbanized/industrialized watershed
- Embodies all issues that face Puget Sound salmonid populations (historic alterations, land management issues, complex flow issues, hatchery and harvest issues, multiple jurisdictions and stakeholders)
- A governance structure that supports implementation

WRIA PROCESS (WITH TECHNICAL WORK AS THE FOCUS):

